Status of Armed Forces (special powers) Act in view of POTO enforcement

3085. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for enacting POTO in place of TADA;

(b) whether the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act now cease to operate if POTO is enforced; and

(c) if not, the reasons for enforcing two special Acts in the North-Eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) The Prevention of Terrorism Ordinance, 2001 seeks to provide a legal framework to effectively deal with terrorism related offences.

(b) No Sir.

(c) The scope of Prevention of Terrorism Ordinance, 2001 is different from the scope of Armed Forces (Assam and Manipur) Special Powers Act, 1958 which applies to the States of Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram.

Involvement of bureaucrats in Arms Licence Racket

3086. SHRI ABANI ROY:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI has urged the Government to formulate a clear cut policy on the issuance of arms licences by State Governments in view of growth of an inter-State arms licence racket;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) if so, whether the involvement of top bureaucrats in State Governments in issuing arms licences have come to light by CBI recently; and

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof?